

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MMO-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CA-01
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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6553
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E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, HV, MX
SUBJECT: VISIT OF HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT: CERP 0002

1. THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL,
PAL LOSONCZI, MADE A STATE VISIT TO MEXICO NOV 9-16, THE
FIRST SUCH HIGH LEVEL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES
SINCE RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1975. ALTHOUGH MUCH
OF THE VISIT WAS OF A CEREMONIAL NATURE, SEVERAL AGREEMENTS
WERE NEGOTIATED AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS DISCUSSED IN
SOME DETAIL. LOSONCZI INVITED PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO
VISIT HUNGARY AND JLP ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE.

2. UNDER THE BASIC SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION
AGREEMENT ALREADY EXISTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, TWO
SUB-AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED - ONE TO BRING INTO EXISTENCE A
MIXED COMMISSION AND ONE TO FINANCE A PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES.
ALSO AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS REACHED TO NEGOTIATE A
CONSULAR CONVENTION.

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3. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, TALK OF INCREASING MEXICAN-HUNGARIAN TRADE (\$15 MILLION US ANNUALLY) PREDOMINATED.
HUNGARY WISHES TO BUY MEXICAN PRIME MATERIALS IN EXCHANGE
FOR ITS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. AS IS THE PATTERN WITH EVERY
VISITING OFFICIAL TO MEXICO THESE DAYS, LOSONCZI STATED
THAT HUNGARY WOULD LIKE TO BUY MEXICAN OIL, BUT HE POINTED

OUT THAT THE COST OF SHIPPING WOULD HAVE TO BE ELIMINATED COMPLETELY FOR MEXICAN OIL TO COMPETE IN THE HUNGARIAN MARKET WITH SOVIET OIL.

4. REFERENCE WAS ALSO MADE IN OFFICIAL EXCHANGES TO HUNGARIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO AND FUTURE JOINT INVESTMENTS. HOWEVER, THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR "MUTUAL BENEFIT" IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND, BASED ON THE PATTERN OF BLOC COUNTRIES' ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANYTHING MORE THAN BARTER WILL EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES FOR THE NEAR FUTURE.

5. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE ALSO TOUCHED ON POLITICAL THEMES EMPHASIZING CONCURRENCE OF MEXICAN AND HUNGARIAN POSITIONS ON DISARMAMENT, ON THE NEED FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND ON OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID. IN INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE PRESS, LOSONCZI PRAISED BREZHNEV'S LATEST MOVES ON DISARMAMENT AND DENIED IMPLICATIONS THAT HUNGARY WAS IN ANY WAY DEPENDENT ON THE USSR. HE DEPARTED ON NOV 14 IN HIS CHARTERED AEROFLOT ILLUSHIN JET. LUCEY

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